ALCOHOL AND DRUG DEPENDENCY COMMISSION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

ANNUAL REPORT

1983-1984

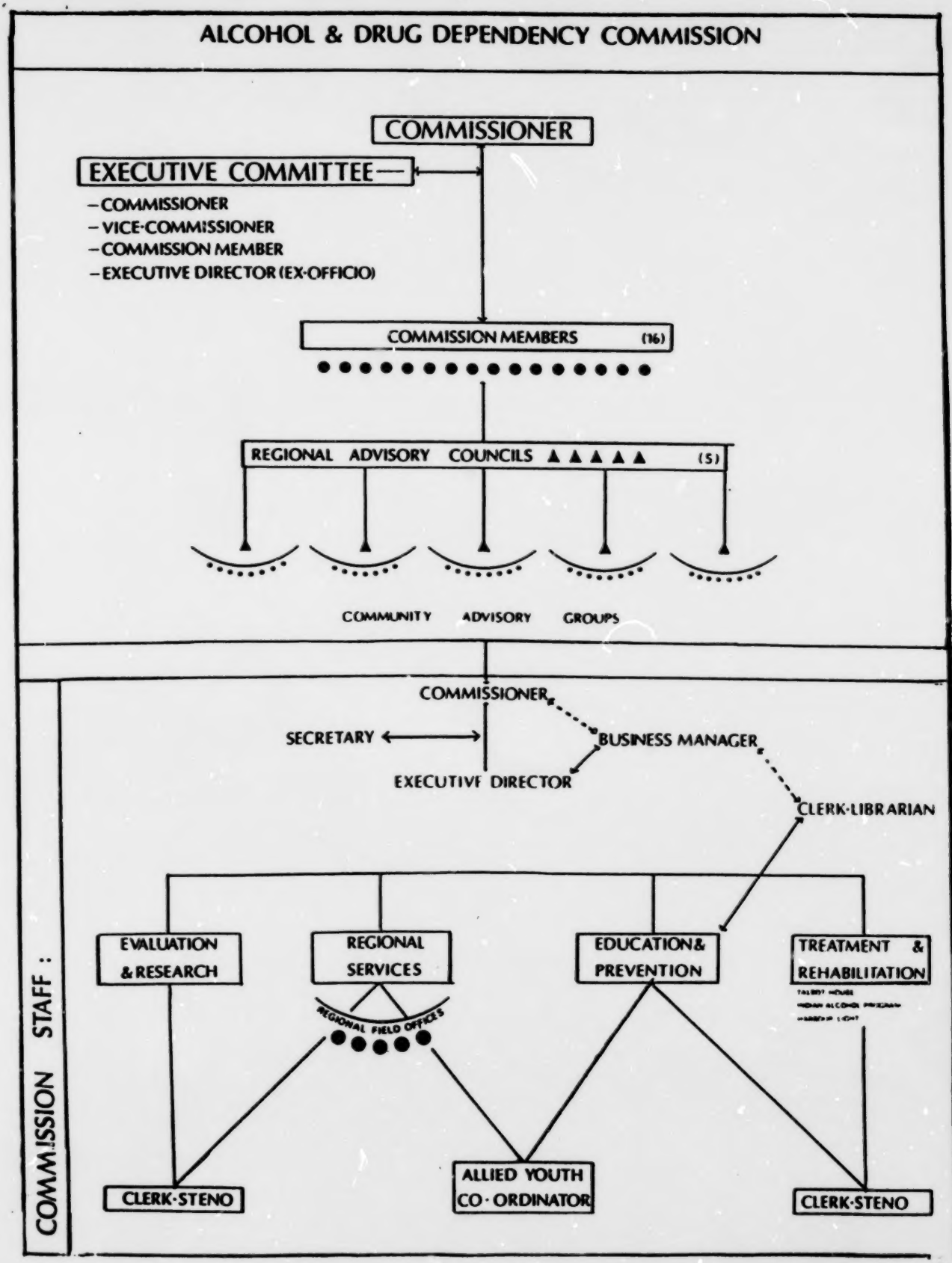
ALCOHOL AND DRUG DEPENDENCY COMMISSION

OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

MEMBERSHIP

1983-84

Eve S. Beck	Chairman
E. Ralph Davis	Vice-Chairman (Regional Representative - St. John's)
B. Wayne Smith	Ex-Officio (Executive Director, ADDC)
Rev. Wallace Baker	Executive Member (Member at Large)
Mr. James J. O'Mara	Executive Member (Member at Large)
Mr. Herbert Buckingham	Dept. of Justice Representative
Dr. Thomas Cantwell	Regional Representative - Central
Mr. George Savoury (Replacing Mr. F. Compton)	Dept. of Social Services Representative
Mr. Doug Hayter	Regional Representative - Eastern
Ms. Audrey Manning	Member at Large
Ms. Judy McGrath	Regional Representative - Labrador
Mr. Sabastian Nuna	Native Representative (Inuit Population)
Mr. Calvin R. Payne	Dept. of Social Services Representative
Ms. Kim Edwards (Replacing Ms. C. Skinner)	Youth Representative
Ms. Joan Greene	Regional Representative - Western
Ms. Tanya Tremblay	Dept. of Education Representative
Dr. Robert Williams	Dept. of Health Representative


ALCOHOL & DRUG DEPENDENCY COMMISSION
COMMISSIONER
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
– COMMISSIONER
– VICE-COMMISSIONER
– COMMISSION MEMBER
– EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (EX-OFFICIO)
COMMISSION MEMBERS (16)
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCILS (5)
COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUPS
COMMISSION STAFF :
COMMISSIONER
SECRETARY
BUSINESS MANAGER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CLERK-LIBRARIAN
EVALUATION & RESEARCH
REGIONAL SERVICES
REGIONAL FIELD OFFICES
EDUCATION & PREVENTION
TREATMENT & REHABILITATION
CLERK-STENO
ALLIED YOUTH CO-ORDINATOR
CLERK-STENO

ALCOHOL AND DRUG DEPENDENCY COMMISSION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

The fiscal year 1983-84 was one of slow growth and development for the Alcohol and Drug Dependency Commission. Problems related to alcohol and drug abuse continued to create undue hardships for a significant number of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians, and the Commission continued to press government to devise methods of increasing its funding base so that we could seriously begin to develop treatment services. However, due to economic realities and severe government restraints, the ADDC was unable to make significant inroads into providing new treatment services for this year.

We did, however, put a good deal of effort and energy into educating the members of the Cabinet (especially the Social Policy Committee) about the nature of addictions issues and the ultimate cost effectivness of providing "up front" services rather than bearing the large expenses resulting from ongoing abuse.

In the following sections, a brief overview of the ADDC's programs will provide insight into the Commission's prevention and education thrust. It is our sincere hope that within the near future, we will be able to actively plan the introduction of the Master Plan for Treatment Services in the province.

This year, I, as Chairman of the ADDC, put considerable effort into promoting the Commission's mandate and purpose by speaking to a number of community service groups and providing liaison for health, social service and justice organizations with an interest in the addictions field.

Closer links were encouraged between heads of Commissions across the country, especially among the Atlantic Chairmen. Some of these agencies (including the Canadian Addiction Foundation) have and are participating in a joint approach to revising alcchol advertising and marketing, with input at the national level (CRTC).

By participating in the activities of a number of provincial agencies, the Commission is attempting to keep the ADDC's mandate and purpose in clear focus in the community.

Eve S. Beck
Chairman

REGIONAL SERVICES DIVISION

George W.N. Skinner
Director

REGIONAL SERVICES DIVISION

The division of Regional Services is the program delivery network of the Commission. Its mandate is to deliver Commission programs regionally throughout the province.

The division consists of five (5) regions: St. John's, Eastern, Central, Western and Labrador. Regional offices, consisting of a Regional Co-ordinator and Clerk Steno, are located in St. John's, Harbour Grace, Grand Falls, Corner Brook and Happy Valley/Goose Bay, respectively. The Western Region also includes one (1) satelite office, located in Stephenville and housing the Commission's Regional Field Officer.

SERVICES

A brief outline of the services offered by the Regional Co-ordinators through their offices are as follows:

COUNSELLING Co-ordinators provided counselling and referral services to individuals affected by alcoholism or other drug abuse problems. Support was also provided to the families of these people.

PUBLIC EDUCATION By means of schools, the media and community groups the staff of the Regional Services Division attempted to educate the public in the area of substance use and abuse.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING Throughout the year the regional staff provided seminars and workshops for counsellors, social workers, teachers, law enforcement officers and others in helping professions, whose work involves them in the field of alcohol and drug abuse.

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS Provision of consultation, training, counselling and referral within the area of Employee Assistance Programming was provided for local employers.

REGIONAL SERVICES . . .

ALLIED YOUTH Sponsorship of the Allied Youth program remained a high priority throughout the year and regional staff continued to stress the positive group experience for adolescents, as well as increase their awareness of themselves and relevant social issues.

INFORMATION CENTER The various regional offices served as a depot for the disemination of resource material to individuals and/or agencies interested in learning more about alcohol and other drugs.

PRACTICUMS In co-operation with the Memorial University's School of Social Work, the division assisted in the field placement of fourth and fifth year students within their social work program. In varying degrees, these students are immersed in distinct program areas under the supervision of the Regional Co-ordinator.

These programs were offered regionally in varying degrees dependent upon available resources and regional requests.

STAFFING

During 1983-84 the division was able to initiate a new concept in terms of regional staff. A Regional Field Officer was appointed within the Western Region. Working out of a satelite office located in Stephenville, the RFO was able to assist the Co-ordinator in servicing the needs of that area. This has proven to be a very workable concept and it is hoped that additional officers may be positioned in other regions in the future.

SUMMER PROJECTS

Throughout the summer of 1983 the division sponsored four (4) summer projects which allowed for the hiring of students to assist in regional programs. Of particular interest is that, through one . . .

of the summer projects, a slide/tape presentation was developed. "The New Student" was produced to address the need for resource material for primary grades and the end result has become a popular items in various schools throughout the province.

ADDICTION COUNSELLORS TRAINING

Within the last quarter of the fiscal year, the Regional Co-ordinators and Field Officer were trained in the utilization of the "Addiction Counsellors Training" program. This program was developed by Health and Welfare Canada in co-operation with various jurisdictions across the country. The program is designed as a 'trainer of trainers' system whereby addiction staff are provided with a contemporary package geared toward the training of counsellors dealing with the drug dependent individual. It is hoped that this program can be provided regionally, by our staff, to various target groups.

SUMMARY

This year has been a very active one for the division. It appears that an increase in requests and related demands has occurred in recent times; however, unfortunately, professional staffing within the division has not been able to increase proportionately. Therefore, we are continually faced with the need to priorize and often substantially limit our efforts in all program areas.

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

DIVISION

Gary Cake
Co-ordinator

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION DIVISION

The Research and Evaluation Division commenced activity on June 1, 1983, with the hiring of a Co-ordinator of Research and Evaluation. The division is responsible for providing policy and program research and evaluation services to the Alcohol and Drug Dependency Commission. During the 1983-84 fiscal year the divisional staff consisted on one permanent Co-ordinator and three (3) temporary employees.

PROGRAM RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

IMPAIRED DRIVERS PROGRAM Since 1978 the Alcohol and Drug Dependency Commission has offered an educational program for convicted impaired drivers. In September 1983 the Research and Evaluation Division initiated a six month evaluation project for this program. Final results are expected during the first quarter of the 1983-84 fiscal year.

POLICY RESEARCH

IMPAIRED DRIVING In September 1983 the division initiated research to produce information on the social characteristics of impaired drivers. Information for the profile has come from the Motor Vehicle Registration records on convicted impaired drivers, as well as from a self-report survey of drinking and driving practices.

Additional to the above the division will soon report the results of a province-wide survey of licensed drivers. Information learned from the survey includes levels of knowledge, attitudes

and experiences pertaining to alcohol impairment and driving.

ECONOMIC COSTS OF ALCOHOL ABUSE The division initiated research into the economic costs associated with abuse of alcohol in Newfoundland. The costs considered include costs to the criminal justice, health care and social service systems. A preliminary report was filed in April 1984.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

HEALTH CARE COSTS The division collected and provided information for an Alcohol and Drug Dependency Commission brief to the Royal Commission into Health Care Costs.

The division provided information on the costs incurred by the provincial government through sending alcohol dependent persons to treatment facilities outside of the province.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG INDICATORS (1974-1982) The division has compiled a reference document which provides all published Statistics Canada information on alcohol and drug consumption, hospitalization and offences.

COMMUNITY FORUMS AND CONFERENCE REPORTS The division prepared reports on the Alcohol and Drug Dependency Commission's Forum and the Conference on Lifestyle Advertising. The division is currently in the process of conducting a review of the ADDC's experiences with the Community Forum concept to date.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Co-ordinator of Research and Evaluation has participated and filed information in a number of miscellaneous areas. Included among these are:

1. the effects of privatizing alcohol sales in other jurisdictions;

2. the effects of decreasing penalties for marijuana in other jurisdi tions;

3. an inventory of sources of information on illicit drug use for the National Drug Monitoring Task Force; and

4. responses to requests for information from professionals and the public at large.

EDUCATION AND PREVENTION

DIVISION

Gary Roberts
Director

EDUCATION AND PREVENTION DIVISION

As the division responsible for co-ordinating preventive activity within the ADDC, the work of the Division of Education and Prevention fell into three general areas: in-house initiatives, community education activity and professional education initiaties.

IN HOUSE ACTIVITY

STAFF TRAINING Staff training programs included, "A Hole in the Fence", "The New Student" and the Addiction Counsellor Training package.

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT The ADDC Librarian began the tremendous task of organizing and cataloguing the materials located in the provincial resource center, while reponding to staff and community requests.

ALLIED YOUTH The on-going maintenance of the Allied Youth program was a high priority of the Education division.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION ACTIVITY

- Co-ordination of Drug Awareness Week 1983
- Planning of Drug Awareness Week 1984
- Co-ordination of the second Forum - "Taking Action on Impaired Driving"

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION ACTIVITY

- Planning of Royal Newfoundland Constabulary workshop

- Negotiations with the Newfoundland Teachers Association on workshop scheduling.
- Planning of Girl Guide Leader Training Program
- Preparation of Spring ADDC Newsletter

ALLIED YOUTH

OF

NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

Ellen Chalker
Provincial Co-ordinator

ALLIED YOUTH

Allied Youth began a full calendar of events in September, which was drawn up by the Provincial Executive for the various A.Y. Posts to follow.

All Post Presidents throughout the Province met for their first meeting in their regions. As ADDC Co-ordinators in the field work with A.Y. as part of their program, the meetings were held in their offices and were chaired by the Provincial Executive members in the region.

The Provincial Car Wash, held each year throughout the province took place in September and a subsequent donation to the School for the Deaf reached $1500.00 This was presented to the school at Conference '84.

A successful Provincial A.Y. Week was held in October, as was a very productive and informative Drug Awareness Week in November. Twenty-one A.Y.ers from this province attended the International Conference held in Ottawa in November, and Newfoundland won the Yearbook Award, as well, Newfoundland's representative was elected to the Cabinet of International A.Y.

From October to May, A.Y. had chartered - Stephenville, Stephenville Crossing, Twillingate, Marystown and Torbay. These new communities, schools and A.Y.ers are welcomed to the A.Y. family.

Throughout the year, A.Y.ers participated in community projects and fundraisers for their own enjoyment and for the betterment of others. Many groups and organizations gained from the enthusiasm and generosity of the A.Y.ers.

The 1984, 21st Provincial Conference was held in Corner Brook during April. The highlight each year is the election of the Provincial Executive, but of added interest to everyone was the "Great Debate" which was held for the first time. A panel of six A.Y.ers representing all regions, and the Provincial Executive, addressed a two-fold question, "Would they like, 1. to see the legal drinking age raised, and 2. to have stiffer penalties against drinking drivers?" The A.Y.ers voted to maintain the drinking age in the province but to have stiffer penalties against impaired drivers.

Elections of Post Executives for the forthcoming year are being held throughout the province during the latter part of the school year. Registration for Leadership Camp has started and Camp will be held August 21 to 26 at West Haven Lodge in Pasadena. A Newfoundland A.Y.er will participate in Exchange '84 and will travel to the Northeastern United States for the month of July. In turn, Newfoundland will entertain an A.Y.er from Texas for the same period. He/she will travel throughout the regions participating in volunteer work and A.Y. activities.

The new A.Y. year will be planned by the Executive during their training days in St. John's, to take place in June.

Some A.Y. Posts will operate during the summer months.